



U.S. MAGNET  
DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM



MT 26  
International Conference  
on Magnet Technology  
Vancouver, Canada | 2019

# Wire and Cable Characterization of $Nb_3Sn$ Conductor with High Heat Capacity

September 25, 2019

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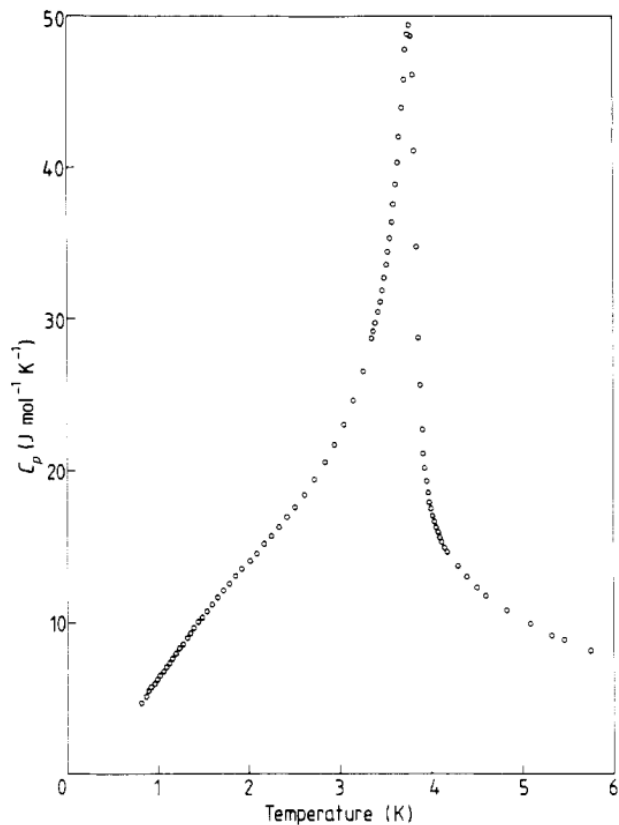
US Magnet Development Program



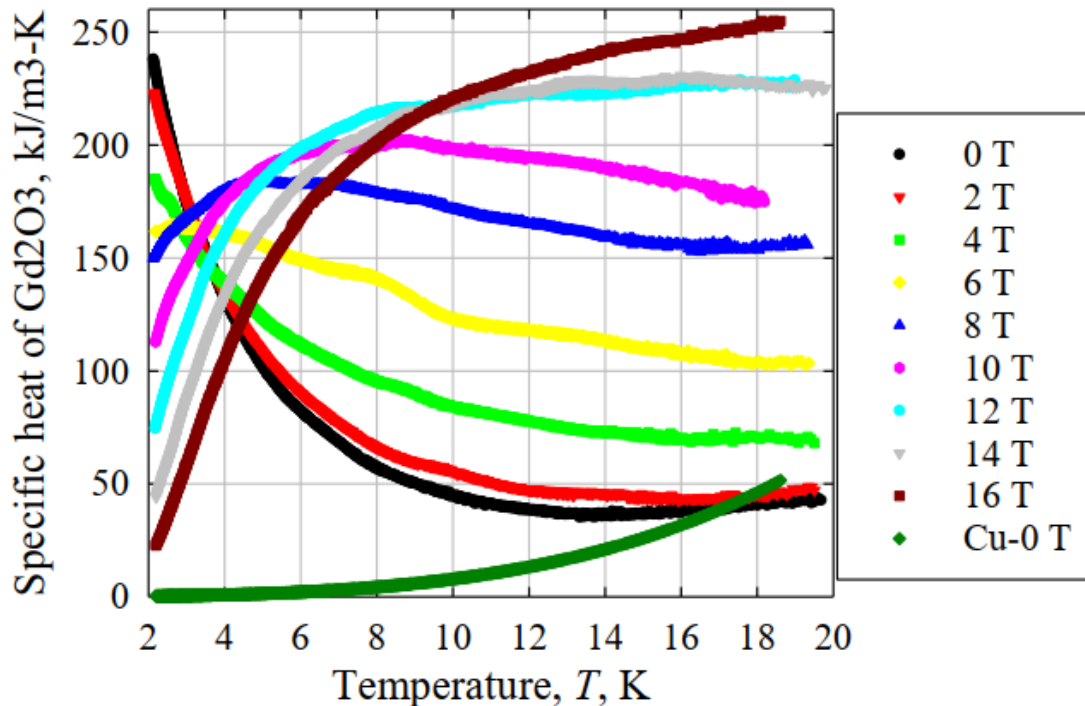
- Reduce magnet training by increasing  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$  wire specific heat, i.e. replace some elements in wire with  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$  /Cu tubes.
- Worked with industry to produce wire prototypes
- Help achieve goals with Finite Element models, including:
  1. High- $C_p$  tube location to optimize thermal efficiency
  2. High- $C_p$  tube location for drawability/ fabricability
- Study model sensitivity
- Compare with data
- Conclusions



# Heat Capacity of $Gd_2O_3$

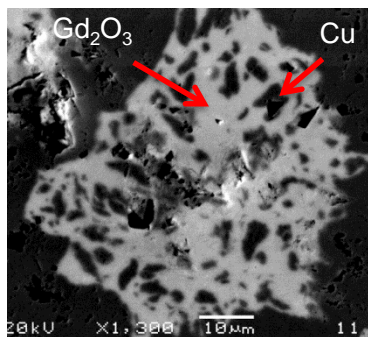


Specific heat of monoclinic  $Gd_2O_3$  R. Hill et al 1983 J. Phys. C: Solid State Phys. 16 2871

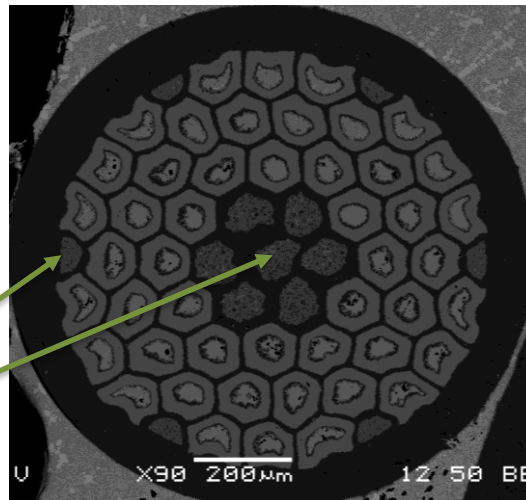


X. Xu, A. V. Zlobin, E. Barzi – Fermilab; C. Buehler, M. Field, B. Sailer, M. Wanior, H. Miao – Bruker EST; C. Tarantini – Florida State University.  
“Enhancing specific heat of  $Nb_3Sn$  conductors to improve stability and reduce training.”  
Presented at CEC-ICMC 2019

# Industry Produced Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Wires

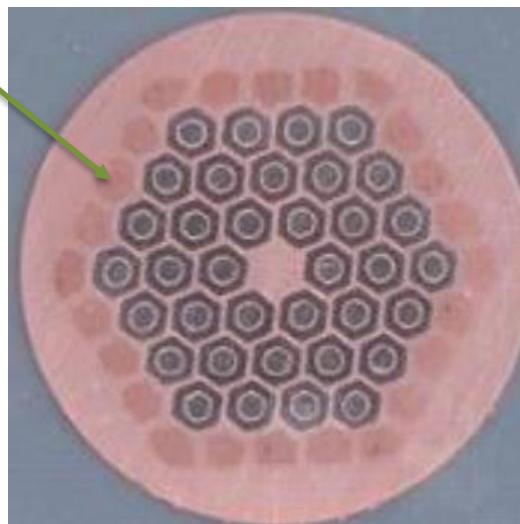


**Tin in Tube wire**



**Gd<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/ Cu tubes**

**Restacked Rod Process wire**



**Internally and on  
Corners**

**Hypertech**

X. Xu, P. Li, A. Zlobin and X. Peng,  
*IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond.*, vol.  
23, Art. no. 4001605, 2018

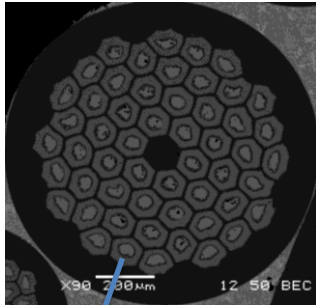
**Externally**

**Bruker-OST, 2019**

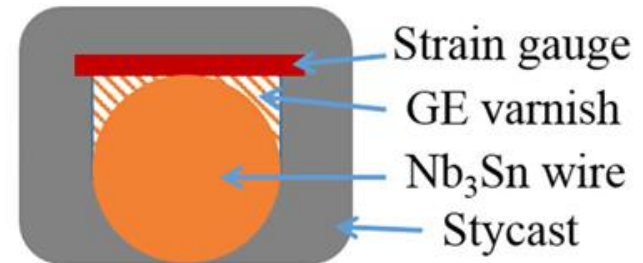
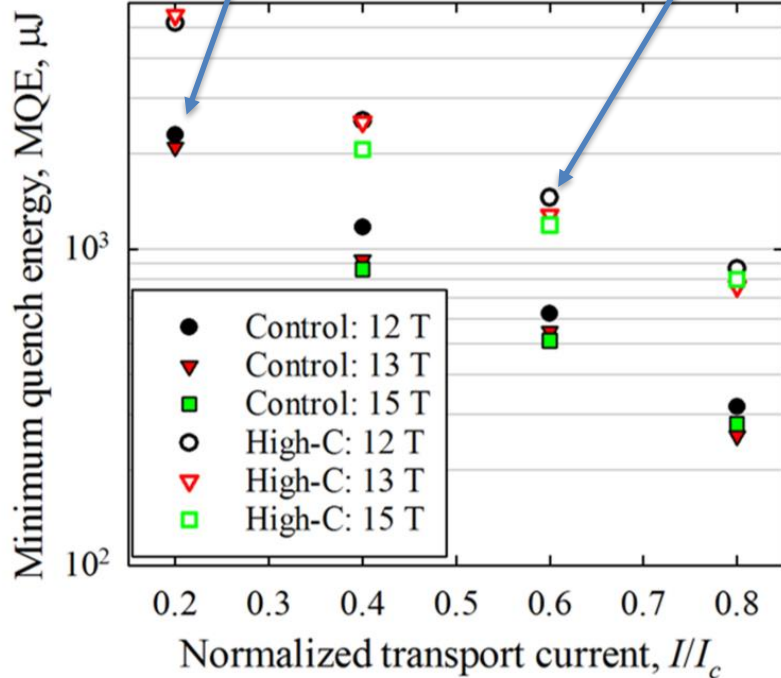
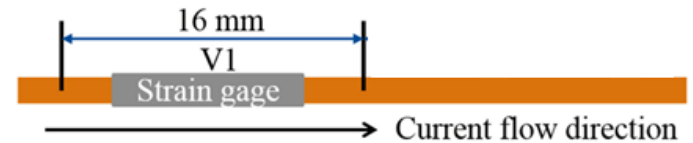
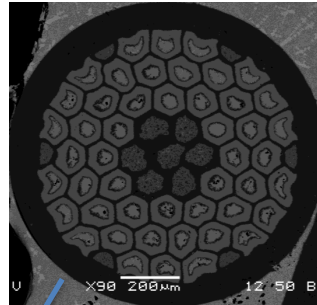


# Minimum Quench Energy Measurements

Control



High- $C_p$



Schematics of the setup to measure MQE.

Pei Li, Xinchun Xu, and A. V. Zlobin, "Development and Study of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Wires With High Specific Heat." IEEE, VOL. 29, NO. 5, 2019

Stycast



Cu



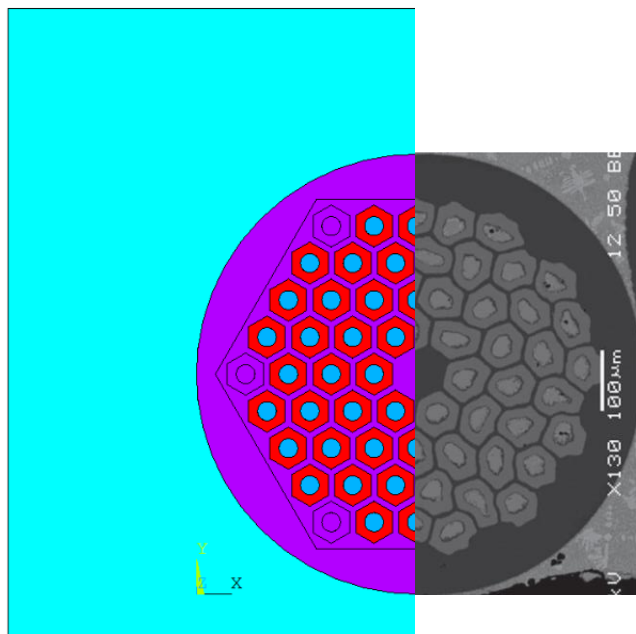
Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn



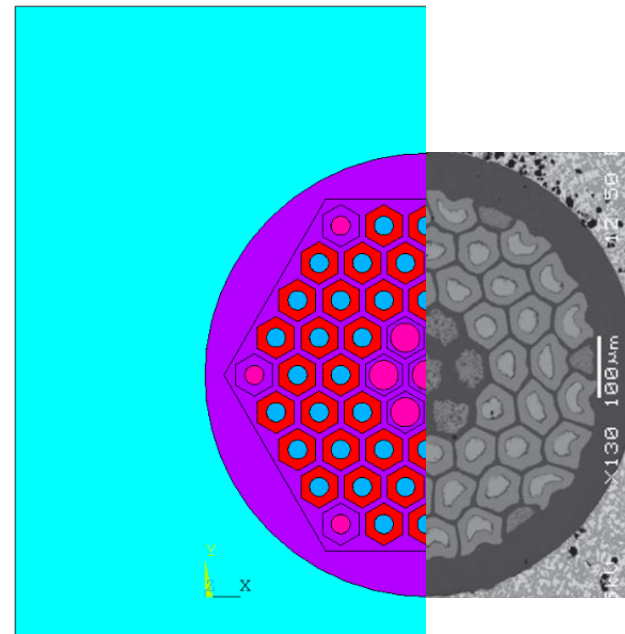
Bronze



Gd<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>+Cu



0.7 mm

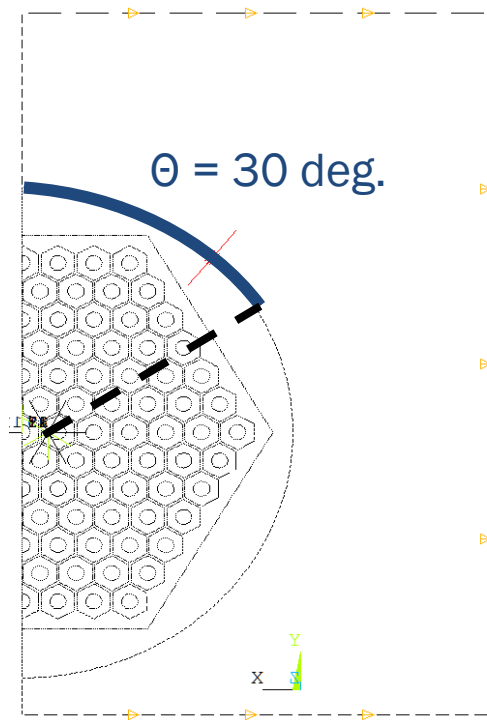


**“Measurements and modelling of mechanical properties of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn strands, cables and coils”,  
E. Barzi, et al., IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond., vol. 29, no. 5, Art. no. 8401808, 2019.**

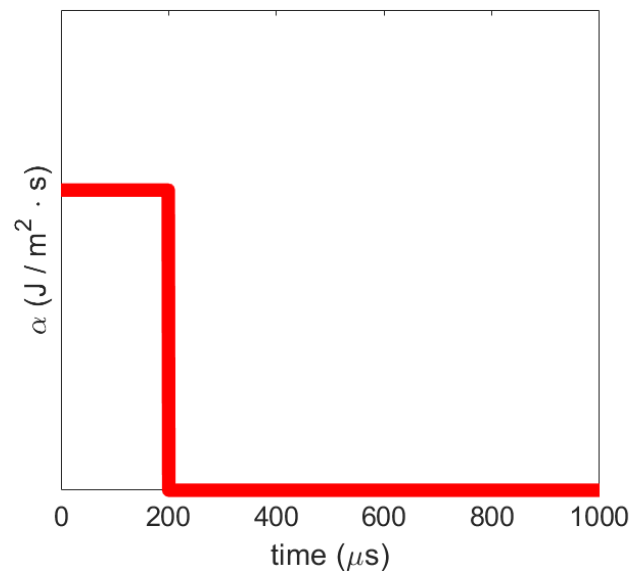
The **initial** temperature is 4.2 K and it is set as **boundary** temperature constraints:

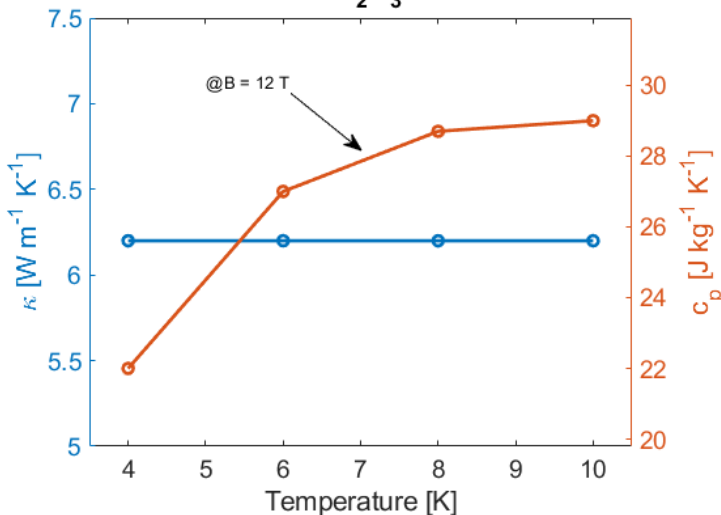
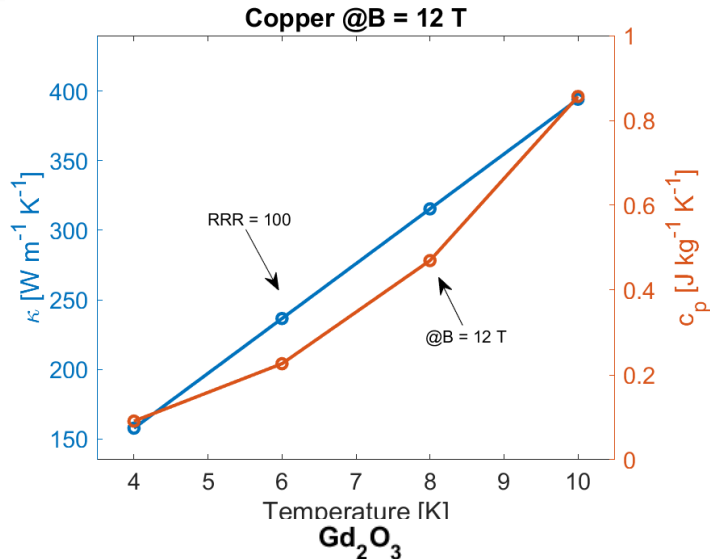
- $T(\mathbf{r}, 0) = 4.2 \text{ K}$
- $T(\mathbf{r}, t) = 4.2 \text{ K}$   
@boundary

Magnetic Field  $B=12\text{T}$



An **heat flux pulse** of 200  $\mu\text{s}$  is applied on the upper half arc (2D model) with unitary thickness.





By obtaining  $I_c(12 \text{ T}, 4.2 \text{ K})$  using parameterization and solving for  $T_c$  in  $I_c(12 \text{ T}, T_c)$  the following critical temperatures:

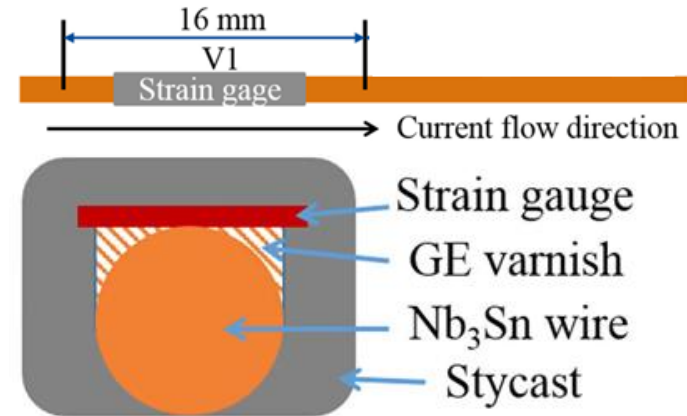
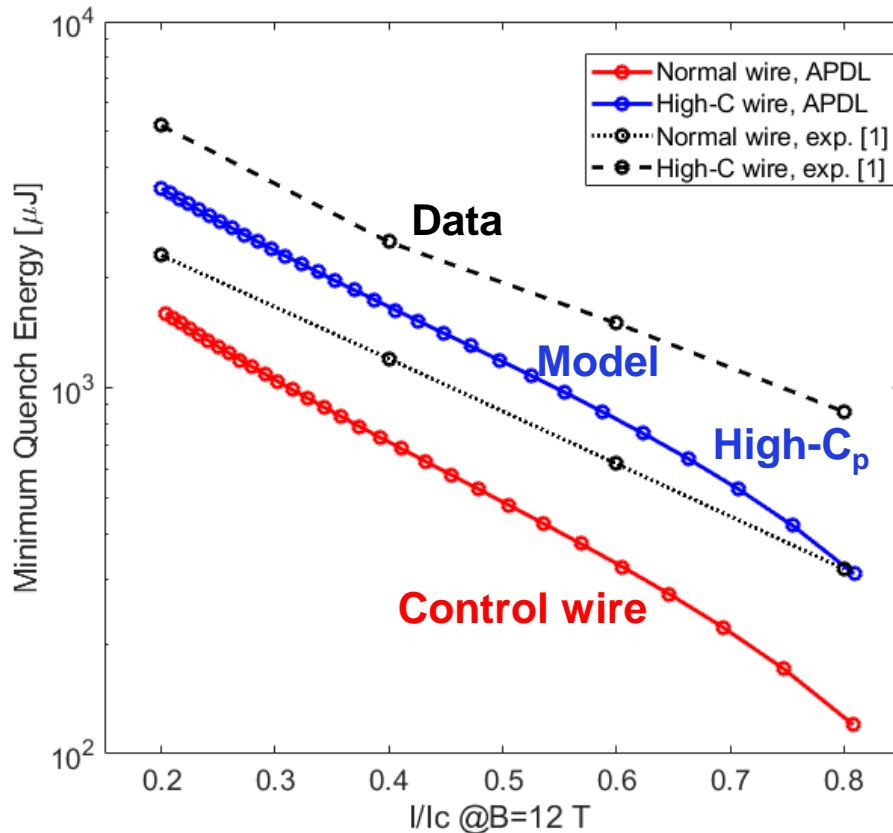
Current ratio $I/I_c$ @B=12 T	$T_c$
0.2	6.3 K
0.4	5.3 K
0.6	4.8 K
0.8	4.4 K

Sensitivity of MQE from model was calculated for thermal conductivity and heat capacity variations of  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$ , Cu,  $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3$ , stycast and bronze.





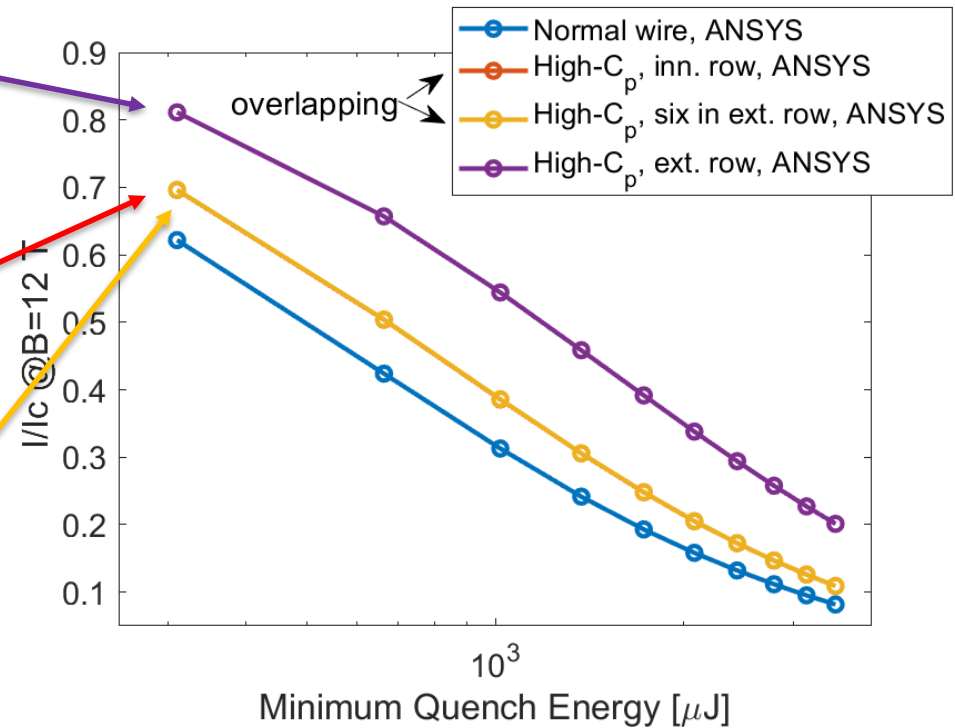
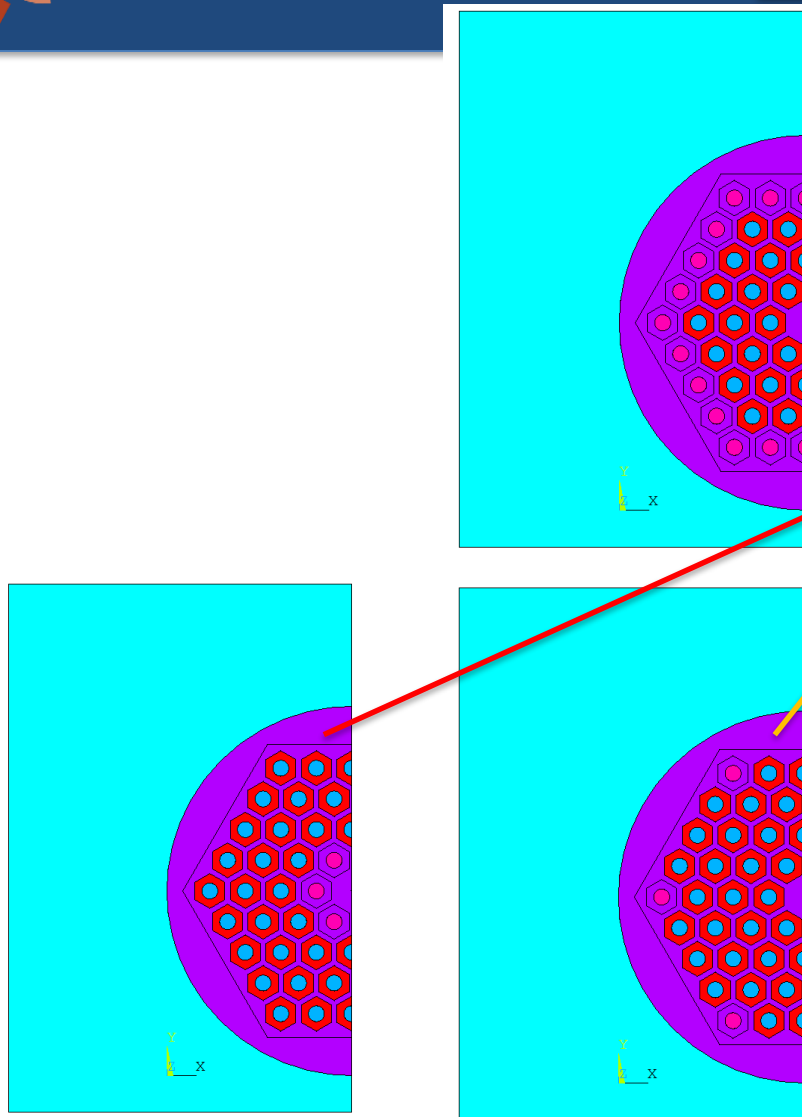
# Model versus Experiment



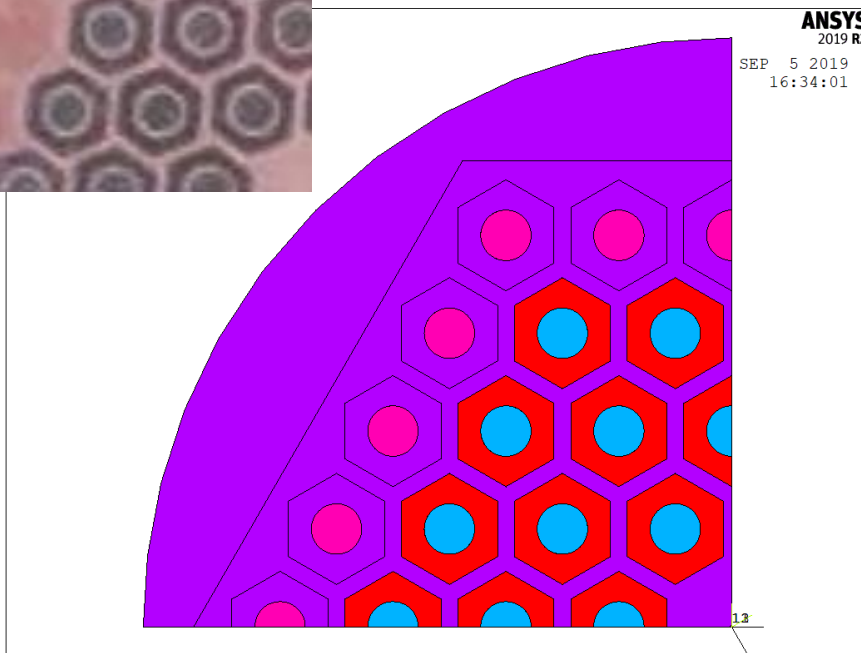
MQE from model is lower than MQE from data since in the experiment 100% of the heat from the heater is assumed to go into the sample.



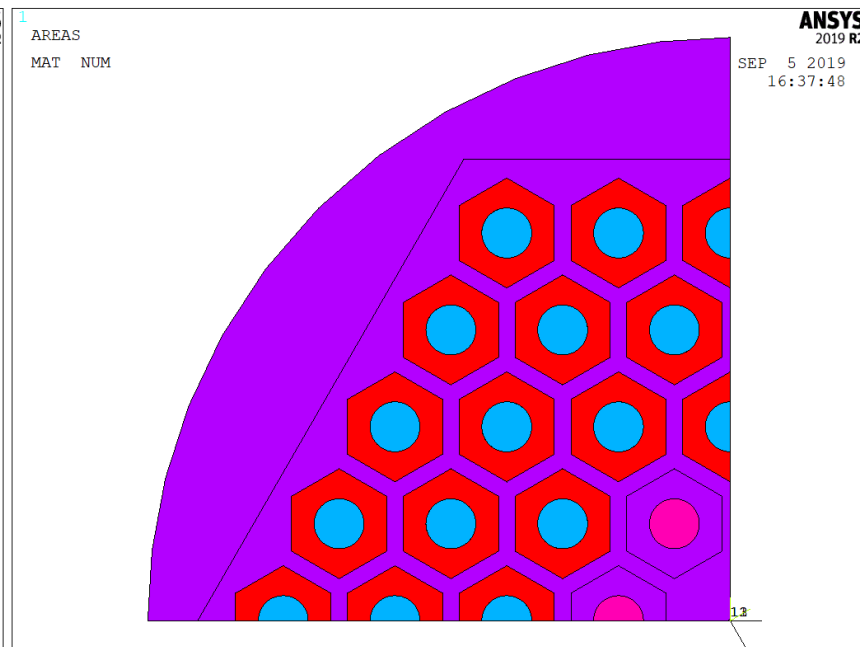
# Is there an optimal thermal location for high- $C_p$ elements?



## Nb-Sn-Cu Composite (pre-reaction)

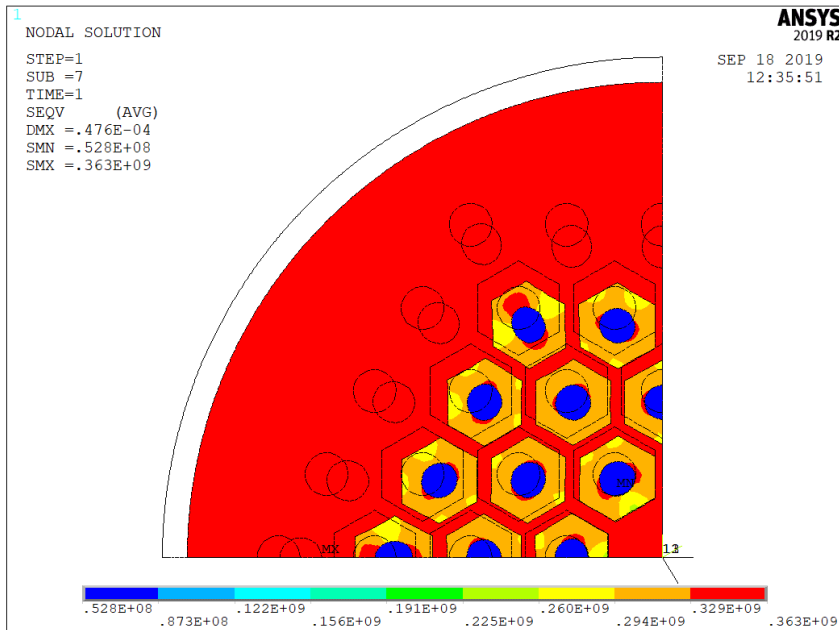


High- $C_p$  elements in the outermost row  
Actual Bruker-OST Wire

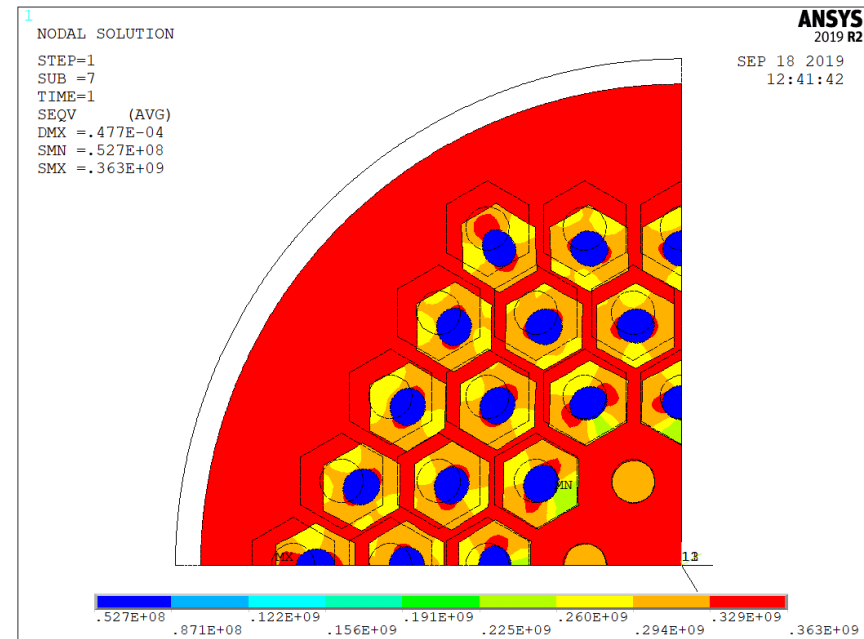


High- $C_p$  elements in the innermost row  
Virtual design

## 5% true strain



**Von Mises Stress, 5% strain**



**Von Mises Stress, 5% strain**

Work in progress, other material properties are being looked at to best represent drawing damage and confirm that for fabricability the location of the  $Gd_2O_3$  tubes might be critical for success.

- The FEM thermal models accurately reproduce relative behavior in Minimum Quench Energy between regular and high- $C_p$  wires.
- They were also very useful in contrasting the intuitive thought that for maximum efficiency the  $Gd_2O_3$  tubes have to be external to the superconducting elements.
- This is good news since on the contrary there are indications that placing the  $Gd_2O_3$  tubes externally hinders drawing.
- FEM structural models have been developed to aid in the design of architectures that can be realized without drawing failure. Further analyses are required to find the right criteria.
- More MQE measurements will be performed on both regular and high- $C_p$  wires.

Thank you for your attention.